

COFC

10/727142



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Patent of:

BALDWIN

Patent No.: 6,915,619 B2

Issued: July 12, 2005

Atty. File No.: 50012-00030

Confirmation No.: 5332

For: "METHOD, FOR HANDLING
SYRINGE BODIES"

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF
CORRECTION OF PATENT FOR
PTO MISTAKE
(37 C.F.R. 1.322(a))

<p>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</p> <p>I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 ON 7-22-05</p> <p>MARSH FISCHMANN & BREYFOGLE LLP</p> <p>BY: <u>Valerie Pegg</u></p>

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a request for a Certificate of Correction for PTO mistake under 37 C.F.R. 1.322(a). The errors in the patent are obvious typographical errors or omissions and the correct wording can be found in the Amendment and Response dated January 18, 2005, at Page 4, lines 5 and 8, and Page 7, line 5. Attached is form PTO 1050 in duplicate along with copies of documentation that unequivocally supports patentee's assertion(s).

Respectfully submitted,

MARSH FISCHMANN & BREYFOGLE LLP

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Certificate
AUG 08 2005
of Correction

Date: July 22, 2005

AUG 09 2005

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 6,915,619 B2
DATED : July 12, 2005
INVENTOR(S): BALDWIN

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent are hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 17

Line 63, delete "operation", and insert therefor --orientation--;
Line 66, delete "unpacking", and insert therefor -- unpackaging--.

Column 18

Line 62, after the first occurrence of "said", insert --packaging--.

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER:

Thomas R. Marsh, Esq.
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303-338-0997

PATENT NO. 6,915,619 B2



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

BALDWIN

Serial No.: 10/727,142

Filed: December 3, 2003

Atty. File No.: 50012-00030

Confirmation No.: 5332

For: "METHOD FOR HANDLING
SYRINGE BODIES" (As Amended)

) Group Art Unit: 3751

) Examiner: Brian D. Nash

) AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</p> <p>I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 ON <u>11/2/05</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">MARSH FISCHMANN & BREYFOGLE, LLP</p> <p>BY: <u>Natalie Altun</u> Natalie Altun</p>
--

Mail Stop Amendments
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits this Amendment and Response to address the Office Action having a mailing date of October 15, 2004. Based on the amendments and remarks presented below, reconsideration and further examination are requested. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$150.00 as the fee for the additional claims presented herein.

Although the Applicant believes that no further fees are due for entry of this Amendment and Response, please charge any fees deemed necessary for entry to Deposit Account No. 50-1419.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the title on page 1 of the application as follows:

~~METHOD, SYSTEM, AND APPARATUS FOR HANDLING SYRINGES~~

METHOD FOR HANDLING SYRINGE BODIES

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for handling a plurality of syringe bodies, comprising:

positioning a plurality of syringe bodies; in a predetermined orientation; and;

interconnecting ~~a belt to each of~~ said plurality of syringe bodies in said predetermined orientation;

packaging said plurality of interconnected syringe bodies in a container after said interconnecting step;

unpackaging said plurality of syringe bodies from said container after said packaging step;
and,

locating said plurality of interconnected syringe bodies in said predetermined orientation in a plurality of holders for at least one production operation after said unpackaging step.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in Claim 21, further comprising:
moving said plurality of holders along a predetermined path during said at least one production operation.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 4, wherein said plurality of holders are located on a support member, and wherein said moving step comprises:

rotating said support member.

7. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 4, wherein a plurality of work locations are located along said predetermined path, and wherein the method further comprises:

disposing said plurality of syringe bodies in series at said plurality of work locations to complete said at least one production operation.

8. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 7, wherein for each of said plurality of syringe bodies said disposing step comprises:

first locating the syringe body at a first work location;

second locating the syringe body at a second work location; and,

returning said one the syringe body to the first work location.

9. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in Claim 31, wherein said at least one production operation comprises:

filling said plurality of syringe bodies with a predetermined fluid;

~~removing and replacing on caps from each of said plurality of syringe bodies; and~~

labeling said plurality of syringe bodies to indicate the contents thereof.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in Claim 401, further comprising:

sterilizing said plurality of interconnected syringe bodies after said packaging step and prior to said unpackaging step.

12. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in Claim 21, wherein said plurality of holders are disposed to position adjacent ones of said plurality of syringe bodies in side-by-side relation.

13. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in Claim 12, further comprising:
separating said plurality of interconnected syringe bodies after said located step.

14-20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of interconnected syringe bodies comprises a barrel and a plunger slidably disposed in one end of the barrel.

22. (New) A method as recited in Claim 21, wherein each of said plurality of interconnected syringe bodies further comprises a cap disposed on another end of the corresponding barrel.

23. (New) A method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising:
first completing said positioning, interconnecting and packaging steps at a production location; and,

second completing said unpackaging and locating steps at another location.

24. (New) A method as recited in Claim 23, further comprising:

shipping said container from said production location to said another location.

25. (New) A method as recited in Claim 23, further comprising:

sterilizing said plurality of interconnected syringe bodies at said production location.

26. (New) A method as recited in Claim 25, wherein said sterilizing step is completed after said packaging step and prior to said unpacking step.

27. (New) A method for handling a plurality of syringe bodies, comprising:

positioning a plurality of syringe bodies in a predetermined orientation;

interconnecting said plurality of syringe bodies in said predetermined orientation;

locating said plurality of interconnected syringe bodies in said predetermined orientation into a plurality of holders; and,

labeling said plurality of syringe bodies to indicate the contents thereof with said plurality of syringe bodies located in said plurality of holders.

28. (New) A method as recited in Claim 27, further comprising:

packaging said plurality of interconnected syringe bodies in a container after said interconnecting step; and,

unpackaging said plurality of syringe bodies from said container after said packaging step.

29. (New) A method as recited in Claim 28, further comprising:

filling said plurality of syringe bodies with a predetermined fluid.

30. (New) A method as recited in Claim 28, further comprising:

sterilizing said plurality of interconnected syringe bodies after said packaging step and prior to said unpackaging step.

31. (New) A method as recited in Claim 27, further comprising:

separating said plurality of interconnected syringe bodies after said locating step.

32. (New) A method as recited in Claim 28, wherein each of said plurality of interconnected syringe bodies comprises a barrel and a plunger slidably disposed in one end of the barrel.

33. (New) A method as recited in Claim 32, wherein each of said plurality of interconnected syringe bodies further comprises a cap disposed on another end of the corresponding barrel.

34. (New) A method as recited in Claim 28, further comprising:

first completing said positioning, interconnecting and packaging steps at a production location; and,

second completing said unpackaging and locating steps at another location.

35. (New) A method as recited in Claim 34, further comprising:

shipping said container from said production location to said another location.

36. (New) A method as recited in Claim 34, further comprising:

sterilizing said plurality of interconnected syringe bodies at said production location.

37. (New) A method as recited in Claim 36, wherein said sterilizing step is completed

- after said packaging step and prior to said unpackaging step.

REMARKS

In the Office Action the Examiner rejected Claims 1-7 and 12-13 under 35 U.S.C §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 3,611,656 to Chidsey. Further, the Examiner indicated that Claims 8-11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the claims from which they correspondingly depend. Applicant submits that all pending claims are allowable over the art.

In particular, independent Claim 1 is directed to a method for handling a plurality of syringe bodies that includes the steps of positioning the syringe bodies in a predetermined orientation, interconnecting the syringe bodies in that predetermined orientation, and packaging the interconnected syringe bodies in a container after the interconnecting step. The method further includes the steps of unpackaging the interconnected syringe bodies from the container after the packaging step, and locating the interconnected syringe bodies in the predetermined orientation in a plurality of holders for at least one production operation after the unpackaging step. As may be noted, Claim 1 now includes language corresponding with prior Claim 2 and Claim 10 (previously objected to), and Claims 2 and 10 have been cancelled. The prior art fails to disclose the method of Claim 1.

In particular, Chidsey fails to disclose or otherwise render obvious any method for handling a plurality of syringe bodies, much less a method in which syringe bodies are positioned and interconnected in a predetermined orientation and/or packaged and unpackaged as an interconnected

plurality and/or located as an interconnected plurality in the predetermined orientation in a plurality of holders for at least one production operation after unpackaging.

Based upon the foregoing, Applicants submits that independent Claim 1 is allowable over the art. Additionally, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 4-13 and 21-26 are allowable for the same reasons as Claim 1, and further since such Claims comprise further combinative features not disclosed or rendered obvious by the prior art.

Applicant believes that new independent Claim 27 is also allowable over the prior art. In this regard, Applicant notes that Claim 27 is directed to a method for handling a plurality of syringe bodies that includes the positioning and interconnecting steps of independent Claim 1, and that further includes language of prior pending Claim 2 and the labeling step language of Claim 9 (previously objected to). Again, Applicant submits that the prior art fails to disclose or render obvious the method of Claim 27.

For example, Chidsey fails to disclose any method for handling a plurality of syringe bodies, much less a method in which a plurality of syringe bodies are positioned and interconnected in a predetermined orientation and/or in which an interconnected plurality of syringe bodies are located in the predetermined orientation in a plurality of holders and labeled to indicate the contents thereof.

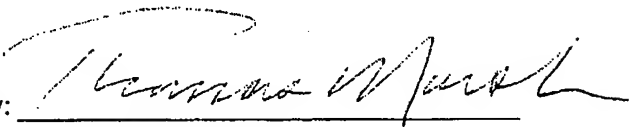
In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that new independent Claim 27 is allowable. Further, Applicant submits that new dependant Claims 28-37 are allowable for the same reasons as

Claim 27, and further since such Claims comprise additional combinative features not taught or rendered obvious by the prior art.

Based upon the foregoing, Applicants believe that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and such disposition is respectfully requested. In the event that a telephone conversation would further prosecution and/or expedite allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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